

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 117, 119-137, 145, 188, and 191. A complete copy of the claims including marked-up versions of each claim which is amended in this Amendment E appears below.

Claims 1-116 (Cancelled).

1 117. (Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said  
2 reclosable bag comprising:

3 at least one sheet of web material including a hood having ~~two areas of structural~~  
4 ~~weakness located therein, said hood having~~ a fold located between said two first and  
5 second ends of said hood, said hood also having first and second areas of structural  
6 weakness respectively located intermediate said fold and said and second ends of said  
7 hood, said fold defining a top of said reclosable bag;

8 a first side panel included in said web material ~~on a side of one of said areas of~~  
9 ~~structural weakness opposite said top of said reclosable bag; and extending from said first~~  
10 end of said hood;

11 a second side panel included in said web material;

12 a gusseted portion included in said web material and located intermediate said first  
13 and second panels, said gusseted portion defining a bottom of said reclosable bag;

14 an opening located between said second end of said hood and said second side  
15 panel;  
16 a reclosable fastener structure including first and second interlockable fastener  
17 tracks each having a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom, said skirt  
18 structures each including a distal portion, one of said distal portions being coupled to said  
19 ~~web material near the intersection~~ first end of said hood and said first side panel, the  
20 other of said distal portions being coupled to said ~~web material near the portion~~ second  
21 end of said hood; ~~most distal from said first side panel near said opening;~~  
22 wherein said first and second interlockable fastener tracks of said reclosable fastener  
23 structure extend into said hood toward said top of said reclosable bag above said areas of  
24 structural weakness, and wherein said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at  
25 least one food product through said opening.

1 118. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 skirt web structures are integral to said first and second interlockable fastener tracks.

1 119. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 skirt web structures are coupled to said first and second interlockable fastener tracks.

1 120. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 skirt structures each include an outside surface and an inside surface, and each of said  
3 outside and inside surfaces includes a respective upper and lower portion.

1 121. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 120, further  
2 comprising:  
3 a backing strip adhesively joined to said inside surface of said skirt structure  
4 having its distal portion coupled to said web material near the portion of said hood most  
5 distal from said first panel.

1 122. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 121, wherein said  
2 backing strip extends below said lower portion of said inside surface of said skirt  
3 structure having its distal portion coupled to said web material near the portion of said  
4 hood most distal from said first panel.

1 123. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag of as defined in Claim 117, wherein  
2 said web material of said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a single sheet of a  
3 parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

1 124. (Currently Amended) The A parent film material as defined in Claim 123, wherein  
2 the said areas of structural weakness are integral to said parent film material.

1 125. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said  
3 sheet of web material.

1 126. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said  
2 predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material is width.

1 127. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said  
2 predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material is length.

1 128. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness extend nonlinearly across a predetermined dimension of said  
3 sheet of said web material.

1 129. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 128, wherein said  
2 predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material is width.

1 130. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 128, wherein said  
2 predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material is length.

1 131. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of  
3 web material in a predetermined pattern.

1 132. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness comprise perforations.

1 133. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

1 134. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness comprise microperforations.

1 135. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 sheet of web material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

1 136. (Currently Amended) The A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 135, wherein said  
2 multiple laminate film comprises at least one layer of material comprising a tear path.

1 137. (Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said  
2 reclosable bag comprising:

3           at least one sheet of web material including a hood having first and second ends of  
4           said hood and a fold located between said first and second ends of said hood, said hood  
5           also having a first area of structural weakness located intermediate said first end of said  
6           hood and said fold and a second area of structural weakness located intermediate said  
7           second end of said hood and said fold, said sheet of web material including a fold located  
8           ~~between said first and second areas of structural weakness,~~ said fold defining a top of said  
9           reclosable bag;

10           a first side panel included in said web material ~~on a side of one of said areas of~~  
11           ~~structural weakness opposite said top of said reclosable bag;~~ and extending from said ~~first~~  
12           first side of said hood;

13           a second side panel included in said web material;

14           a gusseted portion included in said web material and located intermediate said first  
15           and second panels, said gusseted portion defining a bottom of said reclosable bag;

16           a fill opening located generally between said second end of said hood and said  
17           second side panel;

18           a reclosable fastener structure including a first mating track structure and a second  
19           mating track structure, said first mating track structure including a first fin structure of  
20           web material extending therefrom and said second mating track structure including a  
21           second fin structure of web material extending therefrom, each said fin structure  
22           including a distal coupling portion, said distal coupling portion of said first fin structure

23 being coupled to said ~~web material near the intersection~~ first end of said hood, and said  
24 ~~first side panel~~, said distal coupling portion of said second fin structure being coupled to  
25 said ~~web material near the portion~~ second end of said hood; ~~most distal from said first~~  
26 ~~side panel near said opening~~;

27 a backing strip mounted on the side of said second fin structure opposite said ~~web~~  
28 ~~material~~ second end of said hood, said backing strip being coupled to said second fin  
29 ~~structure, said backing strip~~ and extending downwardly from said second fin structure;  
30 wherein said first and second mating track structures extend above said areas of structural  
31 weakness and into said hood toward said top of said reclosable bag, and wherein said  
32 reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product through said fill  
33 opening.

Claims 138-144 (Cancelled).

1 145. (Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said  
2 reclosable bag comprising:

3 at least one sheet of web material including first and second side panels and a  
4 hood extending from a top end of said first side panel, at least two areas of structural  
5 weakness being located in said hood and having a fold located therebetween which fold  
6 defines a top of said reclosable bag, said web material also including a gusseted structure

7 located intermediate said first and second panels, said gusseted structure being located  
8 opposite said fold;  
9 a reclosable fastener including skirt structures extending therefrom, said skirt  
10 structures including distal margins, said distal margins being coupled to said web  
11 material at opposite ends of said hood such that said areas of structural weakness are  
12 located intermediate said fold and said ends of said hood and said reclosable fastener  
13 structure extends above said areas of structural weakness into said fold structure.

Claims 146-186 (Cancelled).

1 187. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 reclosable fastener structure comprises a slider fastener assembly.

1 188. (Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said reclosable  
2 fastener structure comprises a ~~slider~~ zipper fastener assembly.

1 189. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, wherein said  
2 reclosable fastener structure comprises a press-to-close fastener assembly.

1 190. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 117, additionally  
2 comprising:



3 a peelable seal located between said first and second side panels.

1 191. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,  
2 said reclosable bag comprising:

3 at least one sheet of web material defining:

4 a front panel having a top, a bottom, and sides;

5 a rear panel having a top, a bottom, and sides;

6 a gusseted portion extending between said bottoms of said front and rear  
7 panels, said gusseted portion defining a bottom of said reclosable bag; and

8 a hood portion having a fold located at an intermediate location therein  
9 which fold defines a top of said reclosable bag, said hood portion having sides and  
10 two downwardly extending opposite ends, one of said downwardly extending  
11 opposite ends being connected to said top of said rear panel;

12 an area of structural weakness located in said hood portion at an intermediate  
13 location between said fold and each of said downwardly extending opposite ends;

14 a reclosable fastener including first and second interlockable fastener tracks each  
15 having a skirt structure of skirt web material extending downwardly therefrom, said skirt  
16 structures each including a distal portion, one of said distal portions being coupled to said  
17 hood ~~near~~ at said one of said downwardly extending opposite ends connected to said top

18 of said rear panel, the other of said distal portions being coupled to said hood ~~near~~ at the  
19 other of said downwardly extending opposite ends; and  
20 an opening located between said other of said downwardly extending opposite  
21 ends and said top of said front panel;  
22 wherein at least said first and second interlockable fastener tracks of said reclosable  
23 fastener extend above said areas of structural weakness and into said hood, and wherein  
24 said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product through said  
25 opening.